



National Weather Service

Storm Data and Unusual Weather Phenomena



February 2006

Location	Date	Time Local/ Standard	Path Length (Miles)	Path Width (Yards)	Number of Persons		Estimated Damage		Character of Storm
					Killed	Injured	Property	Crops	

CALIFORNIA, South Central

CAZ089>092	W Central Sj Valley - E Central Sj Valley - Sw Sj Valley - Se Sj Valley								
	04	0035PST 1130PST			0	0			Dense Fog
	<p>Visibilities on Central and Southern San Joaquin Valley roads dropped to as low as 100 to 200 feet just after midnight and persisted through the late morning on the 4th. A multiple vehicle accident occurred south of Fresno along Highway 41 before dawn with the dense fog a contributing factor.</p>								
CAZ092	Se Sj Valley								
	07	0705PST 0900PST			1	6	380K		Dense Fog
	<p>Dense fog with visibilities as low as only 100 feet formed just after sunrise between Visalia and Delano along the Highway 99 corridor in the Southeast San Joaquin Valley on the morning of the 7th. Due to vehicles over-driving forward visibility in the dense fog a 38-car/truck pile-up resulted. One fatality was reported in the vicinity of Earlimart in Southern Tulare County. This major transportation artery was closed for 6 hours due to the event.</p>								
	M26VE								
CAZ095-098>099	Kern Cty Mtns - Indian Wells Vly - Se Kern Cty Desert								
	14 15	2100PST 2000PST			0	0	3K		Strong Wind (MG52)
	<p>Gusty west-northwest wind occurred across the Kern County mountains and deserts on the 15th.</p>								
CAZ089>092	W Central Sj Valley - E Central Sj Valley - Sw Sj Valley - Se Sj Valley								
	16 17	0000PST 0800PST			0	0	11.9M		Frost/Freeze
	<p>After a very mild January that encouraged earlier-than-normal deciduous orchard blooming, daytime high temperatures in Interior Central California on the 15th were much below normal following a dry cold-frontal passage. Temperatures on the night of the 15th and morning of the 16th plunged to the mid to upper 20s throughout the Central and South San Joaquin Valley. Many agricultural reporting stations were less than 27F with coldest locations less than 25F. Temperature durations less than 28F exceeded 6 hours in several locations. Early deciduous nut blooms and fruit-set were damaged by the cold air despite grower attempts at freeze mitigation. Temperatures moderated on the morning of the 17th but still dropped to as low as 28F in the coldest locations continuing the damage on area agriculture.</p>								
CAZ096>097	S Sierra Mtns - Tulare Cty Mtns								
	19	0000PST 1200PST			0	0			Heavy Snow
	<p>A fast cold-front brought snow to the Southern Sierra Nevada and Tulare County Mountains early on the 19th. In the Southern Sierra Nevada Hume Lake received almost 10 inches of new snow, Lush Meadow near Mariposa 8", Fish Camp 6", and Ponderosa Basin 4". In the Tulare County Mountains Farewell Gap received a little less than 10" and Tunnel Guard a little less than 12" in a 24-hour period.</p>								
CAZ089>092	W Central Sj Valley - E Central Sj Valley - Sw Sj Valley - Se Sj Valley								
	19 23	2315PST 0800PST			0	0			Frost/Freeze
	<p>Another period of frost struck the Central and Southern San Joaquin Valley from the mornings of the 20th through the 23rd. Temperatures on the 20th and 21st were low enough to cause widespread damage in the setting agricultural deciduous crops with the 22nd and 23rd having some threat to colder locations. On the morning of the 20th a couple of agricultural stations reported a little less than 26 degrees F. with durations more than 4 hours below 28F. On the 21st colder stations were less than 27F with durations less than 28F of more than 2 hours. While minimum temperatures on the 22nd were almost as low as the 21st, durations less than 30F were less than the 21st.</p>								



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CALIFORNIA, South Central

CAZ096>097			S Sierra Mtns - Tulare Cty Mtns					
	27	0800PST			0	0		Winter Storm
	28	0800PST						
Kern County								
Tehachapi	27	0800PST			0	0		Heavy Rain
	28	0800PST						

A substantial snowfall again occurred in the Southern Sierra Nevada and Tulare County Mountains in a 24-hour period across the 27th and 28th of the month after a long period of minimal major storm activity (January 3rd). New snow amounts in the South Sierra included 50 inches at Upper Burnt Corral, 36" at Mitchell Meadow, and 30" at Charlotte Lake. In the Tulare County Mountains 30 inches fell at Tunnel Guard Station, and 20" at Crabtree Meadow and Chagoopa Plateau. This winter storm marked the beginning of a late season wet period for Interior Central California that would extend into mid-April and provide the area with a good snowpack that otherwise was tending toward the dry side. Heavy rain occurred through much of the Kern County Mountains with rainfall reports varying from 1/4" up to 2.5". The Tehachapi area received approximately 1.5" of rain. There were no reports of flooding despite local areas of heavy rain. With wind flow aloft from the southwest during this time period the Central and Southern San Joaquin Valley experienced relatively light rainfall amounts due to a very pronounced rain-shadow from the Coast Range Mountains.

CAZ089>093			W Central Sj Valley - E Central Sj Valley - Sw Sj Valley - Se Sj Valley - S Sierra Foothills						
	27	1115PST			0	0	42K	112.5K	Strong Wind (MG52)
	28	0400PST							

Pre-frontal gusty southeast wind swept the Central San Joaquin Valley beginning by the late afternoon of the 27th. The Southern San Joaquin Valley experienced a blowing dust event with visibilities estimated less than 1/8-mile by Noon on the 27th. A tree was blown over taking down power lines in the Visalia area and Hanford area of Central California at 0328 PST early on the morning of the 28th. In the Southern Sierra Nevada foothills around Oakhurst and Yosemite numerous power lines were downed from gusty wind toppling trees and leaving 12,000 utility customers without power during the night of the 27th. Deciduous trees were downed on the San Joaquin Valley floor causing agricultural losses.